

on foreign oil we are in terrible shape. We are on thin ice, in terms of our national security.

In addition, the bill provides \$50 billion in Federal loan guarantee authority for low-carbon electricity, including nuclear and advanced coal. It promotes the electrification of the transportation fleet to reduce dependence on foreign oil, supports building the crucial infrastructure necessary to create a robust, reliable national grid, and strengthens electricity transmission, including giving FERC the power to site transmission lines.

Americans today demand action and they demand we come together in a bipartisan fashion to solve not only this crisis in the gulf but our larger energy crisis. For 10 years, I have been a member of the Environment and Public Works Committee and for 10 years I have tried to coax Congress into harmonizing our energy, our economy, and our environment. Congress has refused and now the chickens have come home to roost and we are paying the price because we were not able to get together.

I believe the best message we can send the world is that we get it. We must demonstrate that we can safely and responsibly produce oil off our shores, while also promising ourselves that we are going to use less by undertaking a renewed effort to make the United States of America the most oil-independent nation in the world. I envision an America 10 years from now where we can have enough oil to take care of our needs. I imagine an America that is the least reliant country in the world on oil, an America where our economy is not threatened by our reliance on foreign energy sources. It will be an America that has created hundreds of thousands of jobs through responsible development of our Nation's resources and through the creation of new industries in the field of alternative energy.

Wouldn't it be great for our children and grandchildren to one day celebrate the time America put aside its differences and came together to announce what I refer to as a second "Declaration of Independence"—to find more and use less? I believe, with this attitude, we can rekindle the American spirit of self-reliance, innovation, and creativity to usher in a new era of prosperity.

The first step is to pass the Oil Spill Improvement Act to get people back to work in the gulf and to give the Department of Interior the tools it needs to provide proper oversight of the oil and gas industry. Second, Congress needs to do its job—make the passing of a comprehensive energy bill a priority and provide certainty as to how our Nation will supply energy to its economy in the future.

I reiterate and call upon my colleagues, the majority leader, the minority leader, for us next week to put out the Republican proposal and the Democratic proposal, and to have back-to-back votes will do nothing but in-

crease the cynicism that is out there among the American people about what we are doing in the Senate. Next week, we should finish the small business bill—get on with that. We ought to get on with consideration of the Kagan nomination by the President and we should come together and say let's get serious, let's work during the August break to see if we cannot come together on a compromise between the two back-to-back bills so maybe when we get back in September we can have something we can all agree on and get passed and reassure the American people we are serious about dealing with their problems and maybe even give consideration—I know this would be difficult—to look at what many of us have suggested, to look at the bill that JEFF BINGAMAN and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee put together on a bipartisan basis.

Perhaps we could look at a bill Senator ROCKEFELLER and I have worked on for over a year that deals with capturing and sequestering carbon; to look at a title that deals with nuclear energy that I worked with with Senator LIEBERMAN and others—and get something done. It may not be satisfactory to a lot of the environmental groups, but at least we would move the ball down the field this year so people know we are serious about becoming less reliant on foreign sources of energy and also that we are genuinely concerned about reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

As I said, I have been around here, this is the 12th year on Environment and Public Works. For years, we wanted to do something about NO_x, SO_x, and carbon, bring down the caps. The environmental groups said: No, we won't agree with that, we have to include greenhouse gas emissions, so we did nothing.

I will never forget the Secretary of State, when she was a Senator from New York, and she wanted a compromise on emissions because the Adirondack Council and the folks from the Smoky Mountains agreed if we did the Ps, reduce SO_x, NO_x, and mercury, we could move along, and then the environmental groups came along and they gave her the "Villain of the Month Award." Hillary Clinton gets the "Villain of the Month Award" because she is trying to work on a compromise to move us down the road.

We have some time left. I know it is going to be difficult because we have the backdrop of the election facing us. I hope once that is over we have a robust lameduck session so we can deal with some of the things that are on the minds of the American people and, hopefully, perhaps this Commission that you and I wanted to see done on the floor of the Senate, that the President finally had to do through Executive action, could come back here with some positive suggestions on how we can deal with our debt and these budgets that are not going to be balanced as far as the eye can see.

I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH GORE, CHIEF OF STAFF

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, for the past 10 years I have had the privilege of working with Elizabeth Gore, the chief of staff of my U.S. Senate office.

Today, as Elizabeth leaves her job to pursue other career opportunities, I want to pay tribute to her extraordinary work. Elizabeth Gore has made important contributions not only to the effective management of my Senate office, but also to the creation of good public policy for our country.

Elizabeth joined my staff 10 years ago following a career that included work in both the U.S. House of Representatives and for the White House. She possesses that wide range of skills that is always necessary for success. She is smart, tough, honest, and has demonstrated an uncanny sense of good judgment.

I know the American people view the U.S. Senate through the lives of those of us who are elected to serve here. But, frankly, every U.S. Senator will admit that a substantial amount of the credit for their accomplishments in the Senate belong to some very talented staff. That has been especially true of Elizabeth in my office. She has directed a complicated set of issues in an office full of activity with great skill.

The term "regular hours" would not fit any job description in most Senate offices. Long hours, family sacrifices, and devotion to getting the job done describes everything about the commitment Elizabeth made to me, my staff, and the people of North Dakota over the past decade.

I know Elizabeth will now add another chapter to what is already an illustrious career and others will discover the joy of working with her.

I join all of my staff members in saying thank you to Elizabeth Gore for having spent the past decade working in my office. All of us owe her a great debt of gratitude.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I wish to speak to a resolution honoring the National Council for International Visitors, NCIV, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. The United States has the responsibility of protecting its citizens by ensuring peace, and I believe that citizen diplomacy as practiced by the NCIV is a crucial tool to achieving that end.

With the goal of promoting "excellence in civilian diplomacy," the NCIV promotes the idea that individual citizens have the right and responsibility to promote peaceful and cooperative foreign relations. NCIV champions the belief that "citizen diplomacy has the power to shape American perceptions of foreign cultures and international perceptions of the United States, effectively shattering stereotypes, illuminating differences, underscoring

common human values, and developing the web of human connections needed to achieve more peaceful relations between nations.”

In a partnership with the Department of State, the NCIV cosponsors the International Visitor Leadership Program, IVLP, which brings distinguished foreign leaders to the United States for short-term professional programs. Since 1961, the NCIV has organized people-to-people exchanges for more than 190,000 foreign leaders participating in the IVLP, and of these participants, 285 went on to lead their respective countries. The IVLP’s distinguished alumni include Tony Blair, Margaret Thatcher, Anwar Sadat, Indira Gandhi, and Nicolas Sarkozy, among others.

Throughout my tenure in the Senate, I have sought to engage leaders of friendly and adversarial nations alike, as I recognize the potential for dialogue to yield positive results where few prospects for progress were at first seen. Refusing to negotiate with adversarial countries exacerbates relations with these nations, and the resulting mutual lack of understanding strengthens anti-American sentiments.

It is my personal experience that meeting with leaders whose policies are in conflict with those of the United States can yield positive results. I cite my interactions with former President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria, President Fidel Castro of Cuba, and President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela as examples. Achievements resulting in some small part from this personal diplomacy included expansion of emigration rights in Syria and cooperation with Cuba and Venezuela on counter-narcotics policy. By investing in diplomacy, the United States can foster international relationships that facilitate peaceful resolutions to conflict.

The NCIV promotes these relationships on an individual basis, “[bridging] cultures and [building] mutually beneficial relationships through international exchanges.” I nominated the NCIV network of citizen diplomats for the 2001 Nobel Prize believing they “have done . . . the best work for fraternity between nations.” On the occasion of the NCIV’s 50th anniversary, I hope that my colleagues join me in honoring their work.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JOE “THE OLD MASTER” GANS

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I encourage my colleagues to join me in marking the 100th anniversary of the passing of Joe “The Old Master” Gans, a great American who inspired millions with his feats in the boxing ring. At a time of pervasive racial discrimination and inequality, Gans provided the country with a glimpse of the true potential of African Americans by rising to the top of what was then the most popular sport in America.

Gans had the humblest of beginnings. He was born in Baltimore, MD, in 1874, and orphaned 4 years later. Then, he was raised by a foster mother in a segregated world in which the future seemed to hold no more for him than the same menial labor he performed at the Baltimore harbor in his teenage years. In an ironic twist of fate, the racist conditions that hemmed in his world eventually lifted him out of it. His incredible talent for boxing was first discovered when he emerged victorious in a Battle Royale, a cruel sporting event in which white gamblers bet on which of 10 black youths thrown together in a ring would be the last standing.

In the years that followed, Gans honed his skills and accumulated success after success as a lightweight boxer, becoming famous for his perceptive, impregnable defensive tactics and devastating counterpunch. With an easy one-punch knockout victory in 1902, Gans first earned the world lightweight title, at the time the greatest athletic achievement made by an African American. Four years later, he solidified his hold on the title, which he would keep until 1908, with his victory over Matthew “Battling” Nelson on Labor Day, 1906, in Goldfield, NV.

The Goldfield fight, held outdoors under a blazing Sun, drew an audience of 8,000 people. The purse was \$30,000. Gans’s foster mother, Maria Grant, sent him a telegram urging him to “bring home the bacon,” a phrase that caught on in the media accounts when Gans won what was dubbed “the fight of the century” after 42 grueling rounds. It was the longest gloved championship match recorded under Marquis of Queensbury rules.

Despite winning the fight, Gans received much less prize money than his white opponent who lost. But the winnings were enough for Gans to found the Goldfield Hotel, a leading incubator of Black culture where, among others, the great jazz pianist Eubie Blake first attracted notice. Gans’ achievements became a beacon of hope for the African-American community. The prominent preacher and civil rights leader Francis J. Grimke once remarked that the great Booker T. Washington had done much for African Americans, but he “never did one-tenth to place the black man in the front rank as a gentleman as has been done by Joe Gans.”

Gans was one of the first practitioners of scientific gloved boxing, following the era of bare-knuckles fights. Nat Fleischer described his footwork as “beautiful side-stepping, and legwork” in “Black Dynamite.” The San Francisco Chronicle reported that Gans “was in and away or inside as it suited him best, with will-o-the-wisp elusiveness.” Jack Johnson said, “Joe moved around like he was on wheels.” All in all, he fought in three divisions—featherweight, lightweight, and welterweight—for 18 years, compiling over 150 career wins and over 100 knockouts.

The remarkable life of Joe Gans was cut short at age 34 when he succumbed to tuberculosis. I ask my colleagues to join me, a century after his death, in recognizing the inspiring accomplishments of an American hero whom the great Baltimore writer H.L. Mencken called “probably the greatest boxer who ever lived.”

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3040. An act to prevent mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors in the United States, to promote efforts to increase public awareness of the enormous impact that mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud have on seniors, to educate the public, seniors, their families, and their caregivers about how to identify and combat fraudulent activity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5900. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend airport improvement program project grant authority and to improve airline safety, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3372. An act to modify the date on which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and applicable States may require permits for discharges from certain vessels.

At 11:25 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5981. An act to increase the flexibility of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development with respect to the amount of premiums charged for FHA single family housing mortgage insurance, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-6901. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Black Sea Bass Fishery; 2010 Black Sea Bass Specifications; Emergency Rule Extension” (RIN0648-XT99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6902. A communication from the Acting Director of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch for Catcher Vessels Participating in the Rockfish Entry Level Trawl